

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application. Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, performs a method comprising:

receiving a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission in response to a channel change, which corresponds to a target multicast media-stream transmission, the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission further comprising ~~multimedia~~ content including a first series of frames;

receiving the target multicast media-stream transmission including a second series of frames, wherein the first series of frames include the same content that is concurrently transmitting in the second series of frames; that is analogous to and is synchronized with a content of the target multicast media-stream transmission;

decoding the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission at a frame in the second series of frames.

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Claim 2 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an indication to change to a new channel, the new channel being the target multi cast media-stream transmission; requesting the target multicast media-stream transmission, wherein the transmission is representative of the new channel.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an indication to change to a new channel, the new channel being represented by the target multicast media-stream transmission and the unicast acquisition media-stream;

requesting the unicast acquisition media-stream which corresponds to the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 4 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

Claim 5 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises decoding and presenting the decoded content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching.

Claim 6 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the method further comprises requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

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Claim 7 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 8 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 9 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 10 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the switching occurs before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 11 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the switching occurs during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 12 (Original): A computing device comprising:
a media-stream presentation device;
a medium as recited in claim 1.

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Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, performs a method comprising:

receiving a low bit-rate unicast acquisition media-stream transmission in response to a channel change, which corresponds both in time and in content to a target normal bit-rate multicast media-stream transmission;

decoding the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

displaying the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

receiving a normal bit rate unicast intermediate media-stream transmission, which corresponds to the target multicast media-stream transmission and includes a first series of frames;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission;

decoding the content of the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission;

switching display from the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the content of the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission;

receiving the multicast media-stream transmission including a second series of frames, wherein the first series of frames include the same content that is concurrently transmitting in the second series of frames;

switching reception from the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission at a frame in the second series of frames; and

switching display from the content of the unicast intermediate media-stream transmission to the content of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

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Claim 14 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an indication to change to a new channel, the new channel being the target multicast media stream transmission;

requesting the target multicast media-stream transmission, wherein the transmission is representative of the new channel.

Claim 15 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

Claim 16 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the intermediate media-stream transmission.

Claim 17 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises presenting the decoded content of the intermediate media-stream transmission after the switching from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

Claim 18 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises decoding and presenting the content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching from the intermediate media-stream transmission.

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Claim 19 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the method further comprises requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

Claim 20 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein frame properties of the intermediate media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 21 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the intermediate media-stream transmission.

Claim 23 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 13, wherein the frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 24 (Original): A computing device comprising:
a media-stream presentation device;
a medium as recited in claim 13.

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Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, performs a method comprising:

requesting, in response to a channel change, a target multicast media-stream transmission which includes at least a first series of frames;

receiving a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission, where the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission corresponds in subject matter to that of the target multicast media-stream transmission and includes a second series of frames and wherein the second series of frames include the same content that is concurrently transmitting in the first series of frames

decoding and presenting the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission at a frame in the first series of frames.

Claim 26 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the method further comprises decoding and presenting the content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching.

Claim 27 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the method further comprises requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

Claim 28 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

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Claim 29 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 31 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the switching occurs before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 32 (Original): A medium as recited in claim 25, wherein the switching occurs during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 33 (Original): A computing device comprising:
a media-stream presentation device;
a medium as recited in claim 25.

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Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A method facilitating fast channel-change, the method comprising:

requesting, in response to a channel change, a target multicast media-stream transmission having a first series of frames;

receiving a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission having a second series of frames, where the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission corresponds to ~~and synchronizes with that of~~ the target multicast media-stream transmission wherein the second series of frames include the same content that is concurrently transmitting in the first series of frames

decoding and presenting the content of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission;

switching reception from the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission to the target multicast media-stream transmission at a frame in the first series of frames.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A method as recited in claim 34, further comprising decoding and presenting the decoded content of the target multicast media-stream transmission after the switching.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A method as recited in claim 34, further comprising requesting cessation of transmission of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission.

Claim 37 (Original): A method as recited in claim 34, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

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Claim 38 (Original): A method as recited in claim 34, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A method as recited in claim 34, wherein frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 40 (Original): A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the switching occurs before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 41 (Original): A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the switching occurs during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 42 (Original): A computer comprising one or more processor-readable media having processor-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 34.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A multimedia system comprising:
a receiver configured to ~~simultaneously~~ receive both a target multicast media-stream transmission having first frames and a unicast acquisition media-stream transmission having second frames in response to a channel change, wherein the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission corresponds to ~~a current transmission point~~ of the target multicast media-stream transmission by including a series of frames

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in the first frames that is the same content that is concurrently transmitting in the second frames;

a decoding unit configured to decode both a the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission and a the target multicast media-stream transmission;

a splicing unit configured to splice from the reception of the unicast acquisition media-stream to the reception of the target multicast media-stream transmission at one of the second frames.

Claim 44 (Original): A system as recited in claim 43 further comprising a channel-change unit configured to receive an indication to change to a new channel and to request the target multicast media-stream transmission; wherein the transmission is representative of the new channel.

Claim 45 (Original): A system as recited in claim 43, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 46 (Original): A system as recited in claim 43, wherein frame properties of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission do not match those of the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): A system as recited in claim 43, wherein frames of the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission are encoded using a lower bit-rate than that used by the target multicast media-stream transmission.

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Claim 48 (Original): A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the splicing unit is further configured to perform its splice before the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claim 49 (Original): A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the splicing unit is further configured to perform its splice during or close to the reception of a random-access point (RAP) in the target multicast media-stream transmission.

Claims 50-56 (Cancelled)

Claim 57 (New): A method of channel changing comprising:

- processing a request to change to a new channel;
- receiving a unicast media-stream, the unicast media-stream including first media content corresponding to the new channel, in response to processing;
- determining a last frame of the unicast media-stream;
- receiving, after the last frame of the unicast media-stream is received, a portion of a multicast media-stream, the portion of the multicast media-stream including second media content corresponding to the new channel;
- displaying the media content received in the unicast media-stream; and
- switching from displaying the media content received in the unicast media-stream directly to displaying the media content in the portion of the multicast media-stream.

Claim 58 (New): The processor-readable medium of claim 57 wherein the processing comprises requesting the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission prior to requesting the target multicast media-stream transmission.

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Claim 59 (New): The processor-readable medium of claim 57 wherein the processing comprises requesting the unicast acquisition media-stream transmission concurrently with requesting the target multicast media-stream transmission.

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